

recombined: and there are almost infinite possibilities for the activity of the imagination in creating new forms out of pre-existing elements. The imagination may be stimulated by the conscious establishment of a " field of volition<sup>5</sup> or mental disposition towards a certain theme or subject, as for instance, the composition of a landscape. This " field of volition " may, perhaps, be likened to the magnetic field that is developed round the poles of a magnet. It sets up an activity that causes the memory-stream to present to us recollections which are apposite to the subject before us—which are, that is to say, attracted by the same emotional interest. The fertility of the imagination—the abundance of the materials with which the artist can construct—depends upon the emotions that have been aroused in him by the various features and phases of actual landscapes that he has seen, and the links which his emotions have established between them. If he is of an emotional disposition—that is to say, an " imaginative " man—his memory will surge up a flood of detail. If he is of colder temperament, or his brain is not functioning actively, he may have to cudgel his memory for ideas. By a similar process the poet is inspired with similitudes and rhythmical expressions. the musician with sequences and combinations of sounds. the mechanic with new

contrivances. and the mathematician. who can find emotional interest in the properties of numbers. quantities. and positions. can picture in a form which hardly eludes his conception such unsubstantial possibilities as a fourth dimension. Creative art is the offspring of imagination: so are the theories of science, and the mechanical inventions that have given a special character to modern civilization. Occasionally, it may be objected,